

In the Claims:

Please amend Claim 3 as follows:

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3. (Amended) Device according to claim 1 [or 2,) characterized in that the scale (1) consists of a stainless steel ribbon (3).

Please amend Claim 4 as follows:

4. (Amended) Device according to [one of] claim[s] 2 [or 3,] characterized in that each coil (8, 10) comprises a winding arranged in a coil form (9) consisting of a ferrite pot core whose dimension, in the lengthwise direction of the scale (1) appreciably corresponds to the dimension ( $p/2$ ) of the openings along the same direction.

Please amend Claim 5 as follows:

5. (Amended) Device according to [any of] claim[s] 2 [to 4,] characterized in that each of the coils comprises at least two windings electrically mounted in series and arranged in a common coil form, in such a way that the two windings are spaced, lengthwise along the scale, a distance of  $n \times p$  apart, where  $n$  is an integer.

Please amend Claim 6 as follows:

6. (Amended) Device according to [any of] claim[s] 2 [to 5,] characterized in that each receiver (10) coil has means (15) arranged in parallel for tuning the transmission frequency and means (16) for establishing symmetry between the reception levels of the two coils (10).

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Please amend claim 8 as follows:

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8. (Amended) Device according to [any of] claim[s] 2 [to 7,]  
characterized in that the transmitter (6) and the receiver (7) each comprise two  
coils (8, 10) offset lengthwise along the scale (1) by  $n \times p + p/2$ , where  $n$  is an  
integer, in such a way that the interval (5) between two successive openings (4)  
falls between a transmitter (6) coil (8) and the corresponding receiver (7) coil  
(10) whenever an opening (4) falls between the other transmitter (6) coil (8)  
and the corresponding receiver (7) coil (10).

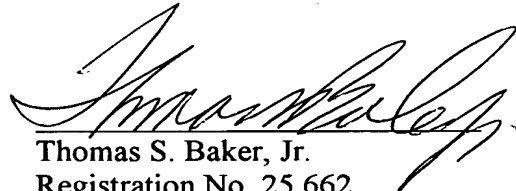
**REMARKS**

An Abstract is enclosed on a separate sheet filed herewith.

The claims are amended to eliminate the multiple dependent form in  
which the claims were originally filed.

Respectfully submitted

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